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employ *gradual warmth*, and the plans for the drowned.

Intoxication.

The body is to be laid upon a bed, with the head a little raised, the neck-cloth, &c. removed. Obtain immediate medical assistance, as the modes of treatment must be varied according to the state of the patient.

The plans above recommended are to be used for **THREE OR FOUR HOURS**. It is an error to suppose that persons are irrecoverable, because life does not soon make its appearance.

On Signs of returning Life.

A tea-spoonful of warm water may be given, and if the power of swallowing be restored, warm wine, or whiskey mixed with water

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE CULTURE OF POTATOES.

IF it be true that Great Britain has expended upwards of ten millions in one year, for the purchase of provisions, it is equally so, that almost the whole might be saved to the nation, by extending the cultivation of potatoes, so as to make it a general substitute for fallow. In Ireland, one third of the land occupied by tillage is unprofitable to the farmer, who has an immensity of labour, and two years' rent to charge to his wheat-crop: and at present not one hundredth part of the fallows of Ireland is occupied by a potato crop. I have been for many years in the habit of cultivating potatoes in three feet drills, with the plough: the difficulty of procuring seed in the year 1800, induced me to adopt the following method: I began at November to have a thin slice taken off each potato, at the end where the eyes are in a cluster, as they were washed and used in my family, taking care to cut the bottom of the eye; each slice produced four or five eyes, which were subdivided, dried and put into casks with oat chaff, from a mill, for use. In March

following, they resembled small pieces of buff leather: I planted some acres of them, and can assert, that not one failed, and their produce came in a fortnight sooner than those planted in the usual way.

It is to be observed that by the mode, which many farmers about me adopted with success, the sets are taken from good potatoes, no abuse is given the potatoes, as is the case with the scoop: no more of them are used than would be rejected at the table, and the scheme is more likely to be adopted in times of scarcity, than the use of the shoots, for carrying a second or third crop, by transplanting. These slices, being in a small compass, will be easily lodged and handled in the nursery. The most prolific sets are obtained from the cluster end: the sets from the best kinds may be removed in large quantities, with little trouble, even from one kingdom to another. Having remarked, when potatoes have been second planted in the lazy-bed mode, that some whole potatoes which escaped in the digging out, and in the turning of the ridges (by which they fell into the bottom of the first trench, and had a covering of eighteen inches of earth) have always remained in a growing state long after the rest of the potato stalks in the ridge are withered, and that they produce much larger and finer potatoes, it determined me to give the planting of whole potatoes a fair trial. Having marked out a piece of land for that purpose, I caused a hole to be dug in the centre of each square yard, eight inches deep, in which I placed a whole potato of the least prolific kind (the red-nosed kidney:) the hole was then filled four inches with dung, and the earth returned; each potato produced four or five strong shoots; as they appeared and advanced in growth, I thrice dug the intervals and as often earthed up the stalks, until there was an elevation of two feet of earth.

In the beginning of September I had several of the banks dug; they produced at an average seven pounds each. A gentleman who was present at the digging of some of them remarked, that the upper potatoes were green, and partly above ground, and that more earth should have been given, which clearly shows the advantage of frequent landing. In digging one of the banks, some of the clay was cast over a stalk belonging to an adjacent bank, and four of the joints were covered; on the 14th of September I dug the bank to which such stalk was attached, and in the short space of fourteen days a potato had been formed at each point, as large as a walnut. The produce of a plantation acre, at the above rate of seven pounds, will amount to the enormous quantity of one hundred and ninety-six barrels, which is more than double the produce of the richest ground, cultivated in the lazy-bed mode. Cottagers should adopt it: it would enable them, their wives and children to cultivate the whole of their gardens with good effect, with a small quantity of dung and seed. I have marked out twenty plantation acres for bank potatoes, to be cultivated principally with the plough: I form the land into ridges three feet apart: plough the furrows a second time to gain depth: lay out dung in small heaps, at the rate of forty-one horse carts to each acre; give the furrows another ploughing to gain greater depth: two women with two lines to cross twenty of the drills, and a three foot rod at either end, is the best way of laying the potatoes distinctly in the bottom of each drill immediately under where the line crosses. When the two lines are laid out, one woman from either end will go along one line, and lay ten potatoes, and return along the other line, doing the same, the other woman doing the like at the other end; they will then

be both at either end of the lines ready to remove each, and so on until the whole of the laying is finished: each potato is to be covered with a small portion of dung. The ridges are then to be reversed with the plough; this covers the potato with sixteen inches of clay and dung, and in that form the field is to be left, until the potatoes begin to push their shoots, when the whole is to be harrowed across, rolled and well pulverised. When the shoots appear, if the distance has been carefully preserved, each cluster of shoots will stand in the centre of every square yard; the earth is then to be stirred by a furrow-cutting plough lengthways, and across, and when prepared, put up both ways to the plants with a double-boarded plough; the furrow-cutter is again to be introduced, for the purpose of preparing clay to land the stalks, which is to be with eighteen inch hoes and shovels, until no more loose earth can be acquired; the field will then appear a number of small conical hills, covered with potato tops and blossoms.

When the potatoes are fit for digging, reap the stalks, and put them in a heap, covering them with quick lime and earth; with a strong plough pare the earth from the four sides of the bank, and smooth the earth with a small harrow. Two men working together with three-pronged forks or spades will, at one effort, heave out the remaining clay and potatoes, which are to be shaken out to the pickers by boys with light forks.

It would but unnecessarily take up the intelligent reader's time, to go into a full explanation of the excellent following given the land by the foregoing process, which exposes double the surface to the influence of the atmosphere: but as it may appear, at first view, complex or expensive, I shall set down the cost of an acre treated as above, not taking ploughing

or harrowing into the account, (as they should be given the fallow without a crop) and also the expense of an acre calculated in the lazy-bed way.

Produce of one acre calculating three pounds and a half to each bank, amounts to 93 barrels, at 5s. per barrel	24	10	0
Four women laying potatoes.....	0	2	2
Three men shovelling & landing.....	0	3	3
Ditto, second do.....	0	3	3
Ditto, third, do.....	0	3	3
Four men taking out the crop.....	0	4	4
Four boys shaking out...	0	2	2
Four women gathering..	0	2	2
Twenty stone seed potatoes, at 2d per stone. }	0	5	0
Forty loads dung, at ?	2	3	4
1s. 1d. per cart			
	3	8	11
	21	1	1
Multiplied by eight.....			8
Clear profit on 8 acres.....	168	8	8
Supposing the farmer to have 100 barrels with the spade, the produce would be.....	25	0	0
320 loads of dung, at ?	17	6	8
1s. 1d. per			
Seed, eight barrels, (12 more are commonly used) at 5s. per barrel.....	2	0	0
Laying seed & planting...	2	3	4
Weeding and digging out	2	3	4
	23	13	4
Profit on the beds.....	1	6	8
Loss on eight acres by cultivating in beds.....	157	15	4

Here we have eight acres highly dressed for a subsequent crop, with the same quantity of seed and dung used with the same one acre of beds, at the immense profit of £168 8 8; in other words, the cultivation of potatoes in banks raises food for the family, for horses, cows sheep, pigs, poultry, &c. at little more than eightpence a barrel, whilst the slothful farmer, who uses the spade, is at an expense of four shillings and nine-

pence. In the year 1801, I cultivated potatoes in the lazy-bed way, in two feet drills, with the spade, the intervals dug and landed twice, and in three feet drills with the plough, which succeeded double as well as the other modes. I am aware, that many gentlemen have, through curiosity, earthed up single potatoes in their gardens, but they have not as yet been made a system of field culture: the introduction of turnips and cabbages into Great Britain has been one of its greatest agricultural improvements.

The following statement will serve to show the great success of the bank potato system, as practised by several persons.

	Bar.
The red-nosed Kidneys produced per acre.....	152
English Reds.....	350
Red Bottoms (a new species of apples).	350
L. Mansergh, esq. Athy, (Apples).....	120
Mr. Ryder, Bray, (apples).....	115
Both these neglected to be landed	

C. P. Doyne, esq. Queen's county, had from thirty-seven potatoes, occupying a square perch, at four and a half feet apart, fifty stone of potatoes, or per acre, 400 barrels.

A labourer cultivated half-a-rood, of which he took much care in landing; he had upwards of a stone from each of his banks (English Reds) that is per acre, 400 barrels.

In order to simplify the planting of whole potatoes in banks, I ploughed five acres into six feet beds, to which, after harrowing, I gave a second ploughing, gathering up the centre of the beds, which raised them and deepened the furrows; I then laid whole potatoes in the centre of each furrow, at eighteen inches apart, and covered them with dung, (this takes exactly the same quantity of seed and dung as the other way) then with two ploughings and harrowings reversed the beds, which raised a great height of earth over the potatoes, and secured the young plantation from frost at all sea-

sons. When the potatoes begin to shoot, cross-harrow the beds until they are nearly reduced to a level; if a roller is necessary let it not be neglected. When the plants appear, plough the earth from them, work the intervals well with plough and harrow, gather up all the prepared earth with the plough and hoe, as high as possible to the stalks: all the earth of the six feet beds will be then employed in assisting the growth of the potato, and a great depth will be gained in the intervals. When the crop is fit for taking up, cut off the stalks, and cast them in a heap to rot: with a strong harrow cross the drills or banks, until the great body of the potatoes appears: plough the earth from each bank to within a few inches of the centre: harrow and lay smooth the intermediate beds, carefully gathering up all potatoes that have appeared; (if a crop of wheat be intended, now is the time to sow it: heave out with two men, one on each side, the entire bank; the shaking out of the potatoes will divide the earth and cover the seed wheat; give a light harrowing; two men to each acre will clear the remaining earth and dung out of the original furrows, and spread them over the beds when required. This work should be performed only when the ground is dry: the treading will do no injury; the crop, stalks, &c. are to be removed behind the fork-men as they move, and the seed to be sown only as wanting to be covered in.

From the success of the last mode of culture, I recommend it in all situations, where the land has been much neglected, is over-run with couch-grass and weeds, and is much impoverished: for this land, the repeated ploughings and harrowings, the gaining a greater depth, and the mixing the under soil with the upper, which has been much exhausted, must conduce much to clean and to bring any land into heart; if with the wheat

crop, red clover be sown the ensuing April, covered in by second shovelling, and thereby top-dressing the wheat, to feed off such clover with ewes and lambs will complete the recruiting of it.

In both modes, much of the aerial potatoes, noticed by Darwin have appeared above my highest landing; I remarked, where a stalk was cracked by the wind or any accident, and that it was afterwards covered with clay, a great number of good potatoes were produced.

Potato-stalks, as at present treated, become useless: if they are cut, when on the turn from green, put in a heap (with or without quick lime) and covered with earth, they will produce as much dung for a subsequent crop, as was used to produce them in the bank mode. *Razson's Survey of Kildare.*

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

CORSO THE PERSIAN.....AN EASTERN
TALE.

THE shades of the night had just begun to retire, and the first dawning of morning gleamed in the east, when Corso retired from the company of his friends, with whom he had passed the preceding evening. Satisfied, but not cloyed with pleasure, he wished to enjoy those sensations which arise in the mind from the reflection of past gratifications. In this frame of mind he wandered through the fields, regardless whether he went, and totally absorbed in his own pleasing meditations.

On every side the birds were heard pouring forth the first effusions of their throats, to salute the approaching day. The opening flowers diffused their perfumes, which were borne through the valleys by the silent gale; the dews of night rolled from the hills, and the beauties of the creation displayed themselves successively, as if arising in slow and gradual succession from beneath its shadowy mantle.